Appl. No. 10/041,783
Amdt. dated May 4, 2005
Response to Office Action of March 25, 2005

PATENT

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A system for managing configuration inconsistencies between a network management system (NMS) and network elements (NEs), the system comprising:

a user-interface including:

an object field configured to identify database objects of the network management system, wherein each database object corresponds to a network element;

~~a network device field configured to identify a top-level network device that contains the network element;~~

a status field configured to display a database object state, wherein the database object state represents a relationship between ~~the~~ a database object configuration ~~and~~ a the network element configuration, wherein if an inconsistency is found between the database object configuration and the network element configuration, the inconsistency is shown as one of a plurality of configuration inconsistency types, the plurality of configuration inconsistency types including:

a conflict inconsistency type, meaning some inconsistency exists between the database object configuration and the network element configuration;

a local inconsistency type, meaning no network element exists for a selected database object; and

an agent inconsistency type, meaning that a network element exists, but that no corresponding database object exists; ~~and~~

~~an~~ one or more selectable input ~~mechanism~~ mechanisms, each input mechanism performing a different action, wherein the inconsistency type shown is used to determine an input mechanism that, when selected by the user, performs an action that automatically resolves the inconsistency by editing the database object configuration and/or the network element

Appl. No.
Amdt. dated July 25, 2005
Preliminary Amendment

PATENT

25 | configuration.~~configured to issue a command to edit one of network element values and database~~

26 | ~~object values.~~

1 | 2. (Original) The system of Claim 1, wherein the network element values

2 | define the configuration of the network element, and

3 | wherein the database object values define the configuration of the database object.

1 | 3. (Currently amended) The system of Claim 1, wherein a state of the

2 | database object is one of:

3 | ~~conflict, meaning some inconsistency exists between the database object~~

4 | ~~configuration and the network element configuration;~~

5 | ~~local, meaning no network element exists for a selected database object;~~

6 | ~~agent, meaning that a network element exists, but that no corresponding database~~

7 | ~~object exists; and~~

8 | normal, meaning both the database object and the network element have exactly

9 | the same configuration.

1 | 4. (Currently amended) The system of Claim 3, wherein the ~~state of the~~

2 | ~~database object~~inconsistency type is conflict, and the input mechanism is ~~a button~~configured to

3 | issue a command to have the network element acquire the database object values.

1 | 5. (Currently amended) The system of Claim 3, wherein the ~~state of the~~

2 | ~~database object~~inconsistency type is conflict, and the input mechanism is ~~a button~~configured to

3 | issue a command to have the database object acquire the network element values.

1 | 6. (Currently amended) The system of Claim 3, wherein the state of the

2 | ~~database object~~inconsistency type is LOCAL, and the input mechanism is ~~a button~~configured to

3 | issue a command to create a network element having the database object values.

1   7.   (Currently amended) The system of Claim 3, wherein the state of the

2   ~~database object~~inconsistency type is agent, and the input mechanism is ~~a button~~configured to

3   issue a command to create a database object having the network element values.

1   8.   (Currently amended) A method for managing attribute inconsistencies

2   between a network management system (NMS) and a network element (NE), the method

3   comprising:

4   providing an object field in a user interface to identify database objects of the

5   network management system, wherein each database object corresponds to a network element;

6   ~~providing a network device field configured to identify a top level network device~~

7   ~~that contains the network element;~~

8   providing a status field configured to display a database object state, wherein the

9   database object state represents a relationship between ~~the~~ a database object configuration and

10   ~~the~~ a network element configuration;

11   if an inconsistency is found between the database object configuration and the

12   network element configuration, displaying the inconsistency as one of a plurality of

13   configuration inconsistency types, the plurality of configuration inconsistency types including:

14   a conflict inconsistency type, meaning some inconsistency exists between

15   the database object configuration and the network element configuration;

16   a local inconsistency type, meaning no network element exists for a

17   selected database object; and

18   an agent inconsistency type, meaning that a network element exists, but

19   that no corresponding database object exists;

20   receiving a selection of one or more input mechanisms, wherein each input

21   mechanism performing a different action, wherein the inconsistency type shown is used to

22   determine an input mechanism that performs an action that automatically resolves the

23   inconsistency by editing the database object configuration and/or the network element

24   configuration.~~; and~~

Appl. No. 10/041,783
Amdt. dated May 4, 2005
Response to Office Action of March 25, 2005

PATENT

25   ~~issuing a command to edit one of network element values and database object~~

26   ~~values.~~

1   9.   (Original) The method of Claim 8, wherein the network element values

2   define the configuration of the network element, and wherein the database object values define

3   the configuration of the database object.

1   10.   (Currently amended) The method of Claim 8, further comprising

2   providing in the object field a state of the database object as being ~~one of~~:

3   ~~conflict, meaning some inconsistency exists between the database object~~

4   ~~configuration and the network element configuration;~~

5   ~~LOCAL, meaning no network element exists for a selected database object;~~

6   ~~agent, meaning that a network element exists, but that no corresponding database~~

7   ~~object exists; and~~

8   normal, meaning both the database object and the network element have exactly

9   the same configuration.

1   11.   (Currently amended) The method of Claim 10, wherein the ~~state of the~~

2   ~~database object~~inconsistency type is conflict, the method further comprising ~~issuing~~ receiving a

3   selection of an input mechanism to issue a command to have the network element acquire the

4   database object values.

1   12.   (Currently amended) The method of Claim 10, wherein the inconsistency

2   type~~state of the database object~~ is conflict, the method further comprising receiving a selection of

3   an input mechanism to issue ~~issuing~~ a command to have the database object acquire the network

4   element values.

1   13.   (Currently amended) The method of Claim 10, wherein the state of the

2   ~~database object~~ inconsistency type is LOCAL, the method further comprising receiving a

3   selection of an input mechanism to issue ~~issuing~~ a command to create a network element having

4   the database object values.

Appl. No. 10/041,783
Amdt. dated May 4, 2005
Response to Office Action of March 25, 2005

PATENT

1   14.   (Original) The method of Claim 10, wherein the state of the ~~database~~

2   ~~object~~inconsistency type is agent, the method further comprising <u>receiving a selection of an input</u>

3   <u>mechanism to issue</u> ~~issues~~ a command to create a database object having the network element

4   values.

1   15.   (Original) The method of Claim 8, further comprising:

2   resynchronizing the network management system and the network element; and

3   carrying out the command to edit one of the network element values and the

4   database object values.

1   16.   (Currently amended) A computer-readable medium carrying one or more

2   sequences of one or more instructions for managing attribute inconsistencies between a network

3   management system (NMS) and a network element (NE), the one or more sequences of one or

4   more instructions including instructions which, when executed by one or more processors, cause

5   the one or more processors to perform the steps of:

6   providing an object field in a user interface to identify database objects of the

7   network management system, wherein each database object corresponds to a network element;

8   providing an agent field configured to identify the network element;

9   providing a status field configured to display a database object state, wherein the

10   database object state represents a relationship between ~~the~~ <u>a</u> database object configuration and

11   ~~the~~ <u>a</u> network element configuration; ~~and~~

12   <u>if an inconsistency is found between the database object configuration and the</u>

13   <u>network element configuration, displaying the inconsistency as one of a plurality of</u>

14   <u>configuration inconsistency types, the plurality of configuration inconsistency types including:</u>

15   <u>a conflict inconsistency type, meaning some inconsistency exists between</u>

16   <u>the database object configuration and the network element configuration;</u>

17   <u>a local inconsistency type, meaning no network element exists for a</u>

18   <u>selected database object; and</u>

Appl. No.
Amdt. dated July 25, 2005
Preliminary Amendment

PATENT

19   an agent inconsistency type, meaning that a network element exists, but

20   that no corresponding database object exists;

21   receiving a selection of one or more input mechanisms, wherein each input

22   mechanism performing a different action, wherein the inconsistency type shown is used to

23   determine an input mechanism that performs an action that automatically resolves the

24   inconsistency by editing the database object configuration and/or the network element

25   configuration.~~issuing a command to edit one of network element values and database object~~

26   ~~values.~~

1   17.   (Original) The computer-readable medium of Claim 16, wherein the

2   network element values define the configuration of the network element, and wherein the

3   database object values define the configuration of the database object.

1   18.   (Currently amended) The computer-readable medium of Claim 16,

2   wherein the instructions further cause the processor to carry out the step of providing in the

3   object field a state of the database object as being ~~one of~~:

4   ~~conflict, meaning some inconsistency exists between the database object~~

5   ~~configuration and the network element configuration;~~

6   ~~LOCAL, meaning no network element exists for a selected database object;~~

7   ~~agent, meaning that a network element exists, but that no corresponding database~~

8   ~~object exists; and~~

9   normal, meaning both the database object and the network element have exactly

10   the same configuration.

1   19.   (Currently amended) The computer-readable medium of Claim 18,

2   wherein the ~~state of the database object~~inconsistency type is conflict, and wherein the

3   instructions further cause the processor to issue a command to have the network element acquire

4   the database object values.

Appl. No.
Amdt. dated July 25, 2005
Preliminary Amendment

PATENT

1   20.   (Currently amended) The computer-readable medium of Claim 18,

2   wherein the <u>inconsistency type</u><s>state of the database object</s> is conflict, and wherein the

3   instructions further cause the processor to issue a command to have the database object acquire

4   the network element values.

1   21.   (Currently amended) The computer-readable medium of Claim 18,

2   wherein the<u>inconsistency type</u> <s>state of the database object</s> is LOCAL, and wherein the

3   instructions further cause the processor to issue a command to create a network element having

4   the database object values.

1   22.   (Currently amended) The computer-readable medium of Claim 18,

2   wherein the <u>inconsistency type</u><s>state of the database object</s> is agent, and wherein the instructions

3   further cause the processor to issue a command to create a database object having the network

4   element values.

1   23.   (Original) The computer-readable medium of Claim 16, wherein the

2   instructions further cause the processor to carry out the steps of:

3   resyncing the network management system and the network element; and carrying

4   out the command to edit one of the network element values and the database object values.